

STATE OF MICHIGAN
COURT OF APPEALS

In the Matter of RUSHON GAULT, TRAVON R.
BELK, THOMAS CARLOS HAIRSTON and
LATAVIA CASHAY GAULT, Minors.

FAMILY INDEPENDENCE AGENCY,

Petitioner-Appellee,

UNPUBLISHED
June 19, 2003

v

JACQUELINE CULPEPPER,

No. 241676
St. Clair Circuit Court
Family Division
LC No. 96-000034

Respondent-Appellant,

and

WILLIAM GAULT, GEORGE HAIRSTON and
SHAUNTELLE BELK,

Respondents.

Before: Sawyer, P.J., and Meter and Schuette, JJ.

MEMORANDUM.

Respondent Culpepper appeals as of right from a circuit court order terminating her parental rights to the minor children pursuant to MCL 712A.19b(3)(c), (g) and (j). We affirm. This appeal is being decided without oral argument pursuant to MCR 7.214(E).

The trial court did not clearly err in finding that at least one statutory ground for termination had been proved by clear and convincing evidence. *In re IEM*, 233 Mich App 438, 450; 592 NW2d 751 (1999). Although respondent made some progress in complying with the treatment plan, she waited nearly a year to invest herself in the reunification process and thus was still unable to provide proper care and custody for the children after they had spent eighteen months in foster care. Further, the trial court's finding regarding the child's best interests was not clearly erroneous. *In re Trejo Minors*, 462 Mich 341, 354, 356-357; 612 NW2d 407 (2000);

MCL 712A.19b(5). Therefore, the trial court did not clearly err in terminating respondent's parental rights. *Trejo, supra* at 356-357.

Affirmed.

/s/ David H. Sawyer

/s/ Patrick M. Meter

/s/ Bill Schuette